



AFRICA WHO'S WHO

THIRD EDITION

AFRICA WHO'S WHO

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FOREWORD

by

The Most Reverend Desmond M. Tutu, D.D. F.K.C.
Anglican Archbishop of Cape Town

The completion of the political liberation of Africa, represented by Namibian independence and the ending of apartheid in South Africa, is a significant turning point in the history of our continent.

We now have the opportunity of a fresh beginning with new hope for the present and future generations of Africans everywhere. Yet the attainment of this promise depends on a liberation from cultural colonialism, a liberation of the African mind from the baneful psychological aftermath of protracted colonial subjugation and racial oppression.

I recall, for example, a history textbook we studied in primary school. We were puzzled how almost always in describing the frontier wars it would say the white farmers *captured* the Xhosas' cattle and the Xhosas always *stole* the farmers' cattle. Isn't it surprising to read, for instance, that David Livingstone discovered the Victoria Falls as if, until then, the people had not seen these Falls? Of course, history, like beauty, lies in the eyes of the historian.

Underlying the approach of colonial historians was an unstated assumption that modern Africa had no social or economic systems, and that emerging independent nations owed not only their boundaries but even their demand for freedom to the philosophies of Europe.

Consequently, the students of Africa learned the history of their colonial masters and were taught to despise the oral history of their elders as being mere storytelling and legend. Even now, very little is taught about the African continent as an integral whole. We still concentrate our attention on the history and affairs of our own individual countries and remain largely ignorant of important parallel or divergent developments beyond our colonially-determined borders.

However, the growth of nationalism and African self-confidence, together with the development of African-directed universities in Africa, challenged this externally-oriented approach to our history and contemporary affairs. Scholars began to look at African experience from an African perspective. They found many forms of evidence: archaeology, language structures, artefacts of life and work, building styles, social and economic customs and structures, oral traditions, art and writing and, for the modern period, the lives and memories of our elders.

A growing awareness of the positive contribution of African society in the social, economic and political spheres is helping to correct the distorted image of this continent for the benefit of both Africa and the world. We need to nurture African historiography (history from our perspective); we need to cultivate our drama, art, music and literature. We have such a rich legacy which we must not allow to disintegrate, we must record the rich folklore and oral traditions of our peoples.

There is much we can teach our contemporaries from African traditional jurisprudence, which sought to be restorative, to be healing of relationships rather than merely punitive and vindictive.

We can draw on our wonderful African concept of *ubuntu*, *botho* - so difficult to translate into western language - to help produce a vision of a new kind of society. *Ubuntu*, the essence of being human, speaks about communal solidarity, for a solitary human being is a contradiction in terms since a person is a person through other persons. We need others in order to be human and so persons are of infinite worth, more valued than things, than possessions, than profits.

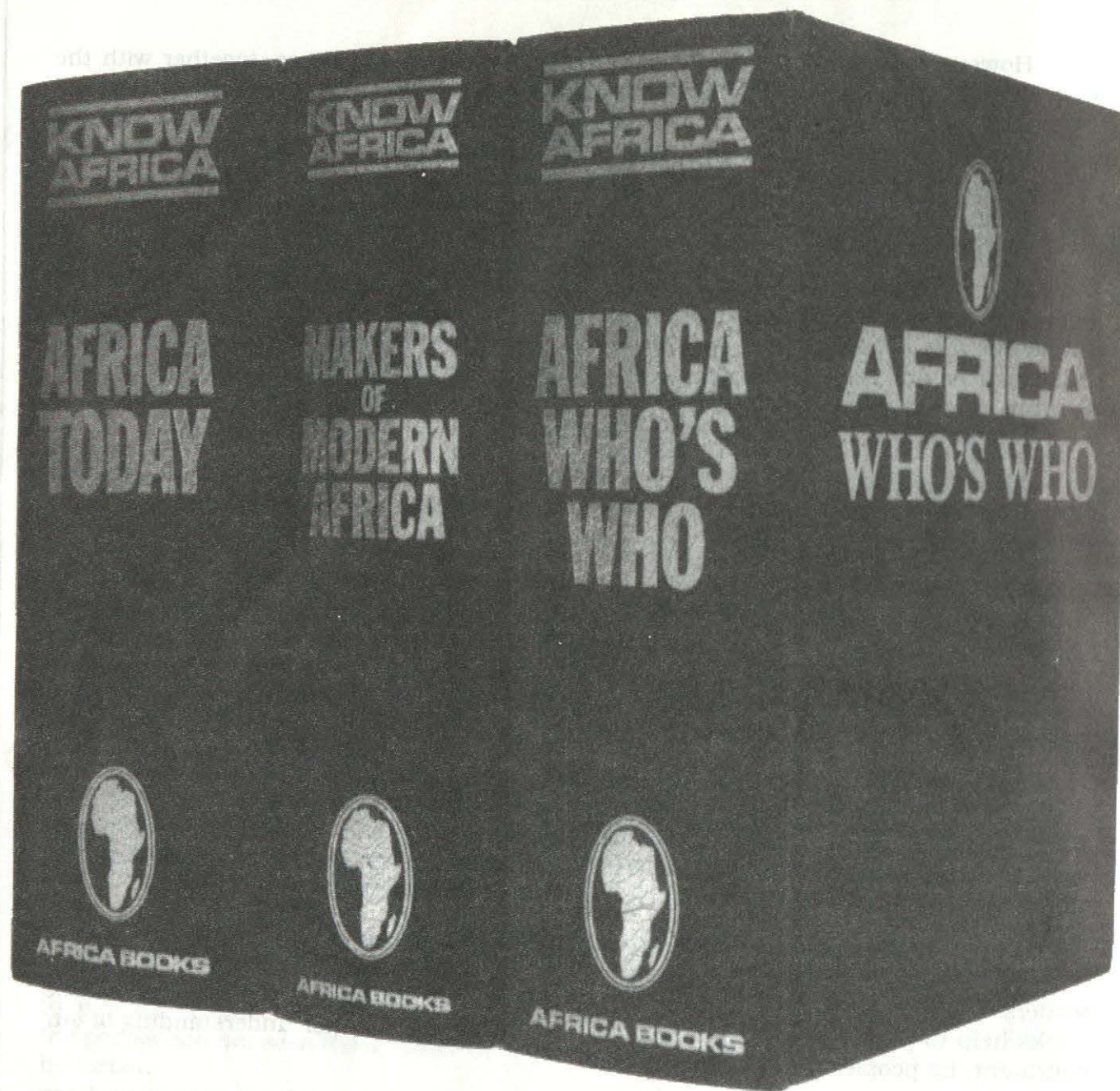
We must look to our African attributes, to our own resources, to our *Weltanschauung*, our world view, and draw forth what will help us have an authentic African existence. This, in a nutshell, is the message of the **KNOW AFRICA** encyclopaedia. The trilogy of **AFRICA TODAY**, **AFRICA WHO'S WHO** and **MAKERS OF MODERN AFRICA** is a contribution of substance to the process of African self-discovery.

One of the impressive attributes of **KNOW AFRICA** lies in its pan-African concept and perspective. In South Africa particularly, the background information on Africa's leaders and achievements can enrich our hitherto isolated society. Furthermore, these books help to promote a realistic evaluation of Africa and a better understanding of our continent, its peoples and potential.

This scholarly collection provides a unique reference source for anyone, anywhere who is interested in Africa. **KNOW AFRICA** is a timely and welcome initiative.

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Desmond Mpilo Tutu



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MAKERS OF MODERN AFRICA
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KNOW AFRICA BOOKS (set)
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**Three Unique, fully
updated volumes written
with an African insight.**

PUBLISHER'S PREFACE

The KNOW AFRICA reference series, as presented in this third edition, is the result of some three decades of research and extensive travels throughout Africa by teams of Africanists, scholars, writers and journalists who, under the auspices of AFRICA BOOKS Ltd, have accomplished one of the most important tasks in the field of general information and education in Africa. KNOW AFRICA aims at terminating the era of publications on Africa which reflect the outsider's perception of the continent. Thanks to the foundation laid by the two earlier editions we are happy to note that it has quickly become the cutting edge of a new approach towards the understanding of Africa, its history, its people and its vast potential.

Ours is a time of change. Yet, even now not enough has changed in the way that Africa is portrayed in numerous books, press, radio and TV reports especially outside the continent. Hence, to many Africans as well as outsiders, Africa still remains, as it did in colonial times, a hotchpotch of countries, differing in culture, language and religion. We are, therefore, particularly pleased to be in a position to incorporate in this new edition the social, political and economic import of the recent historic change in our continent, represented by the end of residual colonisation with the dismantling of the apartheid system in South Africa.

Comprising three volumes, these books provide well-researched information about one of the fastest changing but least documented continents. Taken together, the three volumes in the series are the only work of its class that treats the continent as a whole and looks at Africa as one geo-political unit - from the Cape to Cairo.

AFRICA TODAY, the first volume in the series, is a comprehensive reference book on all the countries, now 55 in number with the recent birth of Eritrea, that comprise the continent of Africa. It begins with an overview of Africa as a unit, reporting on its regional and continental organisations. Then it proceeds to present a detailed record of modern African history, and the political, economic and social development of each African country examined from an African viewpoint. At the same time, it provides basic information on the activities of each country as an integral part of the continent, as well as the role of Africa itself within the global community.

AFRICA WHO'S WHO, the second volume, provides extensive and up-to-date biographical data on some 14,000 living Africans from all walks of life. It remains the only one of its kind with pan-continental coverage available today. It is a rich and reliable reference source on almost everybody who is somebody in Africa.

MAKERS OF MODERN AFRICA, the third volume, has been written by African historians. It consists of some 640 life histories of eminent people - la crème de la crème of our continent - who in their various ways occupy a special place in modern African history. It provides, on a pan-African scale, the social, cultural and political history of Africa as reflected in the careers of these continental giants, past and present, many saints and quite a few sinners, who have contributed significantly in shaping the destiny of modern Africa.

Inevitably, in the course of producing a work of this size and scope, some errors could easily have occurred. Any consequent mis-representation is entirely unintentional. It is a work that is intended to be regularly revised and updated.

Raph Uwechue
PUBLISHER & EDITOR-in-CHIEF

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

ACP	African, Caribbean and Pacific (States)
ADP	African Development Bank
ALN	Armée de Libération Nationale (National Liberation Army of Algeria)
Avda	Avenida (Avenue)
BADEA	Banque Arabe de Développement Economique en Afrique (Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa)
BArch	Bachelor of Architecture
BBC	British Broadcasting Corporation
BCh, BChir	Bachelor of Surgery
BCL	Bachelor of Civil Law; Bachelor of Canon Law
BCom	Bachelor of Commerce
BD	Bachelor of Divinity
BEcons	Bachelor of Economics
BEd	Bachelor of Education
BEng	Bachelor of Engineering
BL	Bachelor of Laws
Blvd	Boulevard
BP	Boîte Postale (Post Box)
BP	British Petroleum Company Plc
BTh	Bachelor of Theology
CAFRAD	Centre Africain de Formation et de Recherches Administratives pour le Développement
CEAO	Communauté Economique de l'Afrique de l'Ouest
CFAO	Compagnie Française de l'Afrique
Co	Company
CODESA (Codesa)	Convention for a Democratic South Africa
COSATU (Cosatu)	Congress of South African Trade Unions
CP	Caixa Postal
DArch	Doctor of Architecture
DCL	Doctor of Civil Law, Doctor of Canon Law
DCom	Doctor of Commerce
DD	Doctor of Divinity
DEcon	Doctor of Economics
DEng	Doctor of Engineering
DJur	Doctor of Law
DMV	Doctor of Veterinary Medicine
DSocSc	Doctor of Social Science
DTCD	Department of Technical Co-operation for Development, United Nations
DTh	Doctor of Theology

EC	European Community
ECA	Economic Commission for Africa (UN)
ECAFE	Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East
ECOMOG	Economic Community Monitoring Group
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
Educ	Education
EEC	European Economic Community
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation
FCT	Federal Capital Territory
FLN	Front de Libération Nationale
FRELIMO (Frelimo)	Frente de Libertação de Moçambique
GATT	General Agreements on Tariffs and Trade
GPRA	Gouvernement Provisoire de la République Algérienne (Provisional Government of the Republic of Algeria)
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Authority
IATA	International Air Transport Association
IBRD	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (World Bank)
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organisation
IDA	International Development Association
ILO	International Labour Organisation
IMF	International Monetary Fund
ITU	International Telecommunications Union
KANU	Kenya African National Union
LLB	Bachelor of Laws
LLD	Doctor of Laws
LLM	Master of Laws
Lt	Lieutenant
Maj	Major
MArch	Master of Architecture
MB	Bachelor of Medicine
MBA	Master of Business Administration
MCh	Master of Surgery
MD	Doctor of Medicine
MDiv	Master of Divinity
Mgr	Monsignor
NAFCOC	National African Federal Chamber of Commerce
NLF	National Liberation Front
OAU	Organisation of African Unity
OCAM	Organisation Commune Africaine, Malgache et Mauricienne
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
OIC	Organisation of the Islamic Conference
OMVS	Organisation pour la mise en valeur du fleuve Sénégal

OPEC	Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries
PMB	Private Mail Bag
PNDC	Provisional National Defence Council
Pvt	Private
RDA	Rassemblement Démocratique Africain
Renamo	Resistência Nacional Moçambicana
Rt Rev	Right Reverend
SADCC	Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference
SADR	Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic
SONATRACH	Société Nationale pour la Recherche, la Production, la Transformation et la Commercialisation des Hydrocarbures
SWANU	South West African National Union
SWAPO	South West Africa People's Organisation of Namibia
UAE	United Arab Emirates
UAR	United Arab Republic
UDEAC	L'Union Douanière et Economique de l'Afrique Centrale
UDF	United Democratic Front
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNDRO	United Nations Disaster Relief Office
UNECA	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
UNEF	United Nations Emergency Force
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Education Scientific and Cultural Organisation
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organisation
UNIFIL	United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon
UNIP	United National Independence Party
UNITA	União Nacional para a Independência Total de Angola
Univ	University
USSR	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
WHO	World Health Organisation
YMCA	Young Men's Christian Association
YWCA	Young Women's Christian Association
ZANU-PF	Zimbabwe African National Union - Patriotic Front

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ABA, Noureddine, Algerian poet; born 1921, Sétif, Algeria; educ: secondary school, Sétif; joined the army in 1943, served in the Italian and French campaigns, World War II, 1943-45, journalist/militant for the Palestinian cause, returned to Algeria, 1977, visiting lecturer, American Universities since 1979; works published and broadcast include: *L'Aube de l'amour* (Ed Intellectuels réunis, Paris, 1941), *Au-delà des ombres* (1942), *La Toussaint des Enigmes* (Présence Africaine, Paris 1963), *Montjoie Palestine! ou l'an dernier à Jérusalem* (1970), *La vérité à bout portant, Le Gain d'une défaite, Deux étoiles dans le ciel d'Alger* (Nathan, Paris, 1979), *Gazelle après minuit* and *Le Chant perdu au pays retrouvé* (1979 Prix de l'Afrique méditerranéenne), *Tel el-Zaatar s'est tu à la tombée de la nuit* (L'Harmattan, Paris, 1981), *Le dernier jour d'un Nazi* (Stock, Paris, 1982), *C'était hier Sabra et Chatila* (1983), *Comme un oiseau traqué* (L'Harmattan, 1995); address: Sétif, Algeria.

ABACHA, Gen Sani, Nigerian army officer, Head of State; born September 20, 1943, Kano, Kano State, Nigeria; married 1965, Maryam Jidah, ten children; educ: Government College, Kano, 1957-62, Nigerian Military Training College, Kaduna, 1962-63, Mons Defence Cadet College, Aldershot, England, June-November 1963, School of Infantry, Warminster, England, 1971, Command and Staff College, Jaji, 1976, National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies, Kuru, 1981; joined Nigerian Armed Forces, 1962, second lieutenant, 1963, promoted lieutenant, 1966, promoted captain, 1967, major, 1969, platoon commander, later commander, 2nd Division Training Depot, general staff officer, 2nd Division Headquarters, battalion commander, assistant quartermaster general, 2nd Division, general staff officer, Nigerian Army School of Infantry, promoted brigadier, 1980, commander, 2nd Infantry Brigade, director of Army Training, commander, 9th Mechanised Brigade, general officer commanding, 2nd Mechanised Division, Ibadan, 1984-85, also member, Supreme Military Council, 1984-85, promoted major-general, 1984, member, Armed Forces Ruling Council, 1985, 1989 and 1990, also chief of Army Staff, 1985, and chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, 1989, minister of Defence, August 1990, assumed power as Head of State, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, November 1993; awarded honorary PhD, Ondo State Univ, Ado-Ekiti, 1992; hobbies: billiards, tennis, squash; address: Office of the President, Aso Rock, Abuja, Nigeria.

ABADA, Abdelwahab, Algerian diplomat; director, Africa Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, later deputy permanent representative, Permanent Mission of Algeria to the UN, New York, 1983, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Burundi, 1984, appointed ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Canada, 1986; address: c/o Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 6 Rue Ibn Batran, el-Mouradia, 16050, Algiers, Algeria. Tel: (2) 60 80 50.

ABADA EBOLO, Appollinaire, Cameroonian administrator; born March 23, 1935, Ayéné, Mègou, Cameroon; educ: Institut International des Etudes Administratives, Paris, Ecole Nationale d'Administration et de Magistrature, Yaoundé; director of Territorial Administration and the Civil Service, Office of the President, 1963, chief administrator of Ndé, 1971-74, of Mbam, 1974-75, of Upper Nkam, 1975-79,

appointed chief administrator of Sanaga-Maritime, 1979; address: Ayéné, Mègou, Cameroon.

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ABAGBODI, Ernest Chude, Nigerian accountant; born December 8, 1938, Akwukwu, Asaba, Delta State, Nigeria; married June 1960, Elizabeth Omagu Okoh, two daughters, four sons; educ: Baptist Academy, Lagos, 1951-56, City of Westminster College, London, 1960-63; accounts clerk, British and French Bank Ltd, Lagos, 1957-60, stock controller, BP Nigeria Ltd, Lagos, 1964-69, appointed revenue officer, Board of Customs and Excise, Lagos, 1972; associate, Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators, Institute of Credit Management, 1963; hobbies: reading, writing, music, travel; address: 85 Karimu Street, Surulere, Lagos, Nigeria. Tel: 42877.

ABAGLO, Eugène Antoine, Togolese lawyer; born December 29, 1937, Tsévié, Togo; educ: Univ of Aix-en-Provence, France, Univ of Paris; director of Economics, Ministry of Finance, 1966, also government administrator, Banque Centrale des Etats de l'Afrique de l'Ouest (BCEAO), appointed director of Taxes, Ministry of Finance, 1987; address: Lomé, Togo.

ABALAKA, Prof Joseph I Ahmadu, BSc, MSc, PhD, Nigerian biochemist, academic; born March 16, 1947, Odu Ofugo, Benue State, Nigeria; married with children; educ: secondary school, Lagos, Nigerian College of Arts and Science (now Ahmadu Bello Univ), Zaria, Univ of Wisconsin, Madison, USA, 1973-77; lecturer, later head, Biochemistry Dept, Ahmadu Bello Univ, Zaria until 1987, head, Dept of Biochemistry, Federal Univ of Technology, Minna, Niger State, 1988, later appointed professor, Dept of Biological Sciences, post still held in 1995, also director-general, Standards Organisation of Nigeria (SON), 1995; member, Science Division, Panel on Academic Standards, National Universities Commission; member, US Academy of Scientists; hobbies: reading, tennis; address: Faculty of Science, Federal University of Technology, PO Box 656, Minna, Niger State, Nigeria. Tel: 066 222397.

ABALAKA, Peter, BA, Nigerian educationist; born June 6, 1941, Adoru, Kogi State, Nigeria; married Veronica Asmawo, one daughter, one son; educ: Qua Iboe Mission School, Idah, 1950-57, Government Secondary School, Okene, 1958-61, King's College, Lagos, 1962-63, Ahmadu Bello Univ, Zaria, 1964-67; administrative officer, Ahmadu Bello Univ, 1967-69, assistant registrar, Ahmadu Bello Univ, 1969-72, appointed registrar, College of Science and Technology,